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Commission for Social Development

Report on the thirty-ninth session (13-23 February 2001)

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Summary

At its thirty-ninth session, the Commission for Social Development considered two topics under its agenda and multi-year programme of work, namely the priority theme "Enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world" and the sub-theme "The role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development"; and the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

With regard to the priority theme, the Commission adopted a resolution in which, inter alia, it recognized the need for further analyses, research and sharing of views with regard to "enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world" and decided to consider possible ways of further examining this issue at a future session.

Concerning the sub-theme, the Commission adopted a resolution on volunteering and social development, in which, inter alia, it welcomed the work of the United Nations Volunteers as the focal point for the International Year of Volunteers; encouraged Governments to support voluntary action by creating a favourable enabling environment, to take into consideration volunteerism in national development planning and to consider all means available for more people to become involved in voluntary action and to be drawn from a broader cross-section of society; and encouraged organizations of the United Nations system to further support voluntary action for social development.

In connection with its review of plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups, the Commission recommended to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, a resolution on the preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in which, inter alia, it urged Governments to view 2004 as a target year by which concrete achievements should be made to identify and elaborate issues of direct concern to families; requested the Commission to continue to review annually the preparations for the tenth anniversary; and invited Member States to consider organizing activities at the national level in preparation for the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family.

The Commission also recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a resolution on the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development for the period 2002-2006, built around the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, incorporating also the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

Panel discussions with invited experts were held on the priority theme "Enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world" and on the sub-theme "The role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development". A dialogue with non-governmental organizations was also held.

The Commission also reviewed the proposed programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2002-2003, and the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for the period 1999-2000. It renominated three existing members and nominated six new members to the Board, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council.

Finally, the Commission recommended that the Economic and Social Council approve the provisional agenda and documentation for its fortieth session in 2002.

Chapter I
Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolution to be recommended by the Council for adoption by the General Assembly

1. The Commission for Social Development recommends that the Economic and Social Council approve the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

Draft resolution
Preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997 and 54/124 of 17 December 1999 concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family,

"*Recognizing* that the preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family provides a useful opportunity for drawing further attention to the objectives of the Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

"*Recognizing* that the follow-up to the International Year of the Family is an integral part of the agenda and of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development until 2004,

"*Noting* the active role of the United Nations in enhancing international cooperation in family-related issues, particularly in the area of research and information,

"*Emphasizing* that it is necessary to intensify and improve coordination of the activities of the United Nations system on family-related issues so as to contribute fully to the effective preparation for and celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family and the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and the recommendations contained therein;[1]

"2. *Urges* Governments to view 2004 as a target year by which concrete achievements should be made to identify and elaborate issues of direct concern to families and also to set up and strengthen, where appropriate, mechanisms to plan and coordinate activities of governmental bodies and non-governmental organizations;

"3. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to review annually the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family as part of its agenda and of its multi-year programme of work until 2004;

"4. *Invites* Member States to consider organizing activities in preparation for the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at the national level;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council on the preparation for the tenth

* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 42-44.

[1] E/CN.5/2001/4.

anniversary of the International Year of the Family at all levels."

B. Draft resolution for adoption by the Council

2. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Proposals for a multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development for 2002-2006*

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996 by which it decided on the structure of the agenda and work programme of the Commission for Social Development,

Decides that the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for the period 2002-2006 will consist of the following:

2002: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Integration of social and economic policy". Under this theme, the following specific topics will be considered:

(i) Social aspects of macroeconomic policies;

(ii) Social assessment as a policy tool;

(iii) Expenditures in the social sector as a productive factor;

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

(i) Preparatory Committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing (second session);

(ii) Report of the Third Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Disability.

2003: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "National and international cooperation for social development". Under this theme, the following specific topics will be considered:

(i) Sharing of experiences and practices in social development;

(ii) Forging partnerships for social development;

(iii) Social responsibility of the private sector;

(iv) Impact of employment strategies on social development;

(v) Policies and role of international financial institutions and their effect on national social development strategies;

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

Review of the global situation of youth.

2004: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Improving public sector effectiveness";

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

Comprehensive review on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family.

2005: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Review of further implementation of the Social Summit and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly"[2]

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

* For the discussion, see chap. III, paras. 49-50.

[2] Subject to decision of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2001.

2006: Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

(a) Priority theme: "Review of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)";

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the social groups.

C. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

3. The Commission for Social Development recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-ninth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fortieth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

(a) *Takes note* of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its thirty-ninth session and endorses the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission;

(b) *Approves* the provisional agenda and documentation for the fortieth session of the Commission set out below.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the fortieth session of the Commission for Social Development

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

   (a) Priority theme: integration of social and economic policy:

      (i) Social aspects of macroeconomic policies;

      (ii) Social assessment as a policy tool;

      (iii) Expenditures in the social sector as a productive factor.

   (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

      (i) Preparatory Committee for the Second World Assembly on Ageing;

      (ii) Report of the Third Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Ageing;

      (iii) Preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the integration of social and economic policy

Report of the Third Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Disability

Report of the Secretary-General on the preparation for an observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

4. Provisional agenda for the forty-first session of the Commission.

5. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fortieth session.

D. Decision calling for action by the Council

4. The following decision adopted by the Commission calls for action by the Economic and Social Council:

Decision 39/101
Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

At its 9th meeting, on 21 February 2001, The Commission decided, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council:

(a) To nominate the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a period of four years, expiring on 30 June 2005:

Sir Tony Atkinson (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
Jean-Paul Fitoussi (France);
Anna Hedborg (Sweden);
Amina Mama (Nigeria);
Adele Smith Simmons (United States of America);
Jomo Kwame Sundaram (Malaysia);

(b) To renominate the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a further term of two years, expiring on 30 June 2003:

Heba Handoussa (Egypt);
Marcia Rivera (United States of America);
Gita Sen (India).

E. Resolutions and decisions brought to the attention of the Council

5. The following resolutions adopted by the Commission for Social Development are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Resolution 39/1
Enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world

The Commission for Social Development,

Having considered at its thirty-ninth session the priority theme "Enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world",

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

Taking into account the difference of views expressed thereon and during the general debate,

1. *Recognizes* the need for further analyses, research and sharing of views with regard to "enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world";

2. *Decides* to consider possible ways of further examining this issue at a future session.

Resolution 39/2
Volunteering and social development*

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/17 of 20 November 1997, in which the Assembly proclaimed 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers, and also recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/44 of 22 July 1997,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 55/57 of 4 December 2000, in which the Assembly requested the Commission for Social Development to make appropriate suggestions and recommendations to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to further the contribution of volunteering to social development,

Recalling further the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world",[4] in which the General Assembly recommended the promotion of the involvement of volunteers in social development, inter alia, by encouraging Governments, taking into account the views of all actors, to develop comprehensive strategies and programmes by raising public awareness about the value and opportunities of voluntarism and by facilitating an enabling environment for individuals and other actors of civil society to engage in, and the private sector to support, voluntary activities,[5]

Taking note of the contribution of United Nations Volunteers to the preparations for the special session,[6] which identified policy options that would increase Governments support for volunteerism, including the development of strategic approaches to voluntary action, raising public awareness, the promotion of volunteering among youth, the establishment of an

[3] E/CN.5/2001/2.

* For the discussion, see chap. II, paras. 30-37.

[4] See General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

[5] Ibid., paras. 54 and 55.

[6] See A/AC.253/16/Add.7.

enabling fiscal and legislative environment, and the promotion of private-sector support and international support for voluntary activities,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of volunteering, including traditional forms of mutual aid and self-help, service delivery and other forms of civic participation, to economic and social development, benefiting society at large, communities and the individual volunteer,

Recognizing also that volunteerism is an important component of any strategy aimed at poverty reduction, sustainable development and social integration, in particular overcoming social exclusion and discrimination,

Noting the different level of participation in different areas of volunteering by women and men, and recognizing the positive effect of volunteering on the empowerment of women,

Recognizing the existing contribution of United Nations system organizations to support volunteering, including the work of United Nations Volunteers around the world by placing volunteers and by promoting volunteering,

Noting that the General Assembly encouraged United Nations system organizations to ensure that the contributions of volunteers in their own areas of concern are fully recognized,

Bearing in mind that volunteering is one of the important ways in which people participate in societal development,

1. *Welcomes* as a contribution the note of the Secretary-General on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development and its annex,[7] which focuses on harnessing the potential of voluntary action for social development, on strategies to strengthen voluntarism and on the role of Governments;

2. *Also welcomes* the work of United Nations Volunteers as the focal point for the International Year of Volunteers in liaising with the national committees for the Year, and in collecting and disseminating information on the Year, including through its web site;[8]

3. *Recognizes* the importance of action by Governments to develop policy measures to support volunteering that are appropriate to the nature of volunteering in their particular countries, working in partnership with key stakeholders, including the voluntary and private sectors, while ensuring that opportunities for volunteering in all sectors are open to both women and men;

4. *Emphasizes* that support for voluntary action does not imply support for government downsizing nor for replacing paid employment;

5. *Encourages* Governments to support voluntary action for social development by creating a favourable environment, including through:

(a) Increasing public awareness of the vital contribution of volunteerism to the social and economic functioning of their communities through, inter alia, public information activities and public events;

(b) Taking general measures concerning the mobilization, preparation, training and recognition of volunteers;

(c) Establishing enabling fiscal and legislative frameworks, where they do not exist, including for community-based organizations and not-for-profit organizations engaged in volunteering;

(d) Encouraging and undertaking research into the various aspects of volunteerism and its impact on society;

(e) Ensuring access for citizens to information on opportunities for volunteering;

5 bis. *Also encourages* Governments to take into account the possible impact of general social and economic policy measures upon citizens opportunities, ability and willingness to volunteer;

6. *Further encourages* Governments, in this regard, to take into consideration volunteerism in their national development planning, recognizing the contribution of volunteerism to the achievement of social development goals;

7. *Invites* Governments to consider all means available for more people to become involved in voluntary action and to be drawn from a broader cross-section of society, including young people, older persons and people with disabilities, targeting

[7] E/CN.5/2001/6.

[8] www.iyv2001.org.

opportunities for voluntary action to facilitate the active participation of those groups who have little or no access to the social benefits of volunteering;

8. *Encourages* United Nations system organizations to further support voluntary action for social development, including by assisting in the creation of a favourable environment, inter alia, through:

(a) Extending recognition to the contributions of volunteers;

(b) Involving volunteers in their programmes, including, as appropriate, at the national level;

(c) Long-term planning for the enhancement of social capital by inclusion of all segments of society in volunteering;

(d) Assisting Governments, upon request, in building national capacities, including in the field of training;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on ways that Governments and the United Nations system could support volunteering, to propose a body of recommendations for discussion on that occasion, taking into account the present resolution, the above-mentioned United Nations documents, the discussions held during the present session of the Commission for Social Development and other relevant contributions.

6. The following decisions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Economic and Social Council:

Decision 39/102
Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability on a globalizing world

The Commission for Social Development decides to include in the report on its thirty-ninth session the Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world.

Decision 39/103
Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development

The Commission for Social Development decides to include in the report on its thirty-ninth session the Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development.

Decision 39/104
Document considered in connection with the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

The Commission for Social Development takes note of the interim report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (E/CN.5/2001/7).

Decision 39/105
Documents considered in connection with programme questions and other matters

The Commission for Social Development takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/2001/3);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/2001/8 and Add.1).

Chapter II
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development

7. The Commission for Social Development considered item 3 of its agenda, Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development: (a) (i) priority theme: enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world; (ii) subtheme: the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development, at its 1st to 6th, 8th and 10th to 12th meetings, on 13 to 15, 20, 22 and 23 February 2001. The Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world (E/CN.5/2001/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family (E/CN.5/2001/4);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development (E/CN.5/2001/5);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development (E/CN.5/2001/6);

(e) Interim report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (E/CN.5/2001/7).

8. At the 1st meeting, on 13 February, the Chairman of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development, Mr. Zola Skweyiya (South Africa), opened the session and made a statement.

9. At the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs addressed the Commission.

10. Also at the same meeting, an introductory statement was made by the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

11. Also at the 1st meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and also on behalf of the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia; the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, as well as Norway, country member of the European Free Trade Association that is also a member of the European Economic Area).

Priority theme: enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world

12. The Commission considered item 3 (a) (i) of its agenda at its 1st to 6th and 10th to 12th meetings, on 13 to 15, 20 and 23 February 2001.

13. At the 3rd meeting, on 14 February, statements were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and also on behalf of the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia; the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, as well as Norway, a country member of the European Free Trade Association that is also a member of the European Economic Area), South Africa, Croatia, the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Spain, the Republic of Korea, Bangladesh, Mexico, Japan and Nigeria, as well as by the observer of Chile.

14. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Council of Europe, an intergovernmental organization.

15. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the International Movement ATD Fourth World and the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

16. At the 4th meeting, on 14 February, statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia, Ghana, China, the United Republic of Tanzania, Belarus, Argentina, Thailand, Kazakhstan, Morocco and El Salvador, as well as by the observers for Egypt, Burkina Faso, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Cameroon.

17. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

18. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Child Welfare League of America and the Foundation for the Rights of the Family, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

19. Also at the 4th meeting, the Chairman made a statement.

Action taken by the Commission

20. At the 12th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission adopted a resolution submitted under agenda item 3 (a) (i) (see chap. I, sect. E, draft resolution 39/1).

Panel discussion

Expert panel on priority theme: enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world

21. At its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 13 February, the Commission held an expert panel discussion on the priority theme "Enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world".

22. The Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Faith Innerarity (Jamaica), acted as moderator. Mr. Dalmer D. Hoskins (Switzerland), Mr. Ernesto Murro (Uruguay), Ms. Viviene Taylor (South Africa) and Mr. Frank Vandenbroucke (Belgium) made presentations.

Action taken by the Commission

Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world

23. At its 12th meeting, on 23 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to include in its report the Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world (see chap. I, sect. E, decision 39/102).

24. The Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world is set out below:

Introduction

There is no single solution to the challenge of social protection. Each country must decide on the appropriate balance between different protection measures (public-private, formal-community driven, etc.). Social protection is a broad concept, which encompasses a range of policy measures, including not only pensions, but also health care, family allowances, unemployment insurance, disability protection, rehabilitation and in many countries social assistance. Social protection is an investment. The allocation of resources to social protection benefits not only the recipients but society as a whole. There is a substantial cost for not having comprehensive social security systems in place. In processes of adjustment, change and transformation, in particular, it is of vital importance to ensure adequate social protection.

Challenges at the national level

Differences in values, traditions, institutions and differences in context such as demographic pressures, economic growth, overall financial resources, external indebtedness and size, inter alia, explain differences in the construct of social protection at the national level. We are facing important social transformations, illustrated by the quick drop in fertility rates and the overall increase in the size of the elderly population in both the developed and the developing world. For example, ageing and the rise of the dependency ratio are fundamental problems in the developed market economies, although less so in a large number of developing countries. HIV/AIDS is having a devastating impact in many countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa and South Africa. Migration and displacement due to conflict and/or an increase in poverty raise the demands for social protection in a number of countries all over the world. Slow economic growth or stagnation limits the introduction of active social protection that is urgently needed. Servicing of external debt reduces domestic revenues that otherwise could go to social protection. Poverty is rising and the number of female single-headed families with small children is also on the rise. Women and children are in a particularly vulnerable and weak position when they lack effective programmes to help them overcome adversity and raise their expected income. Figures on social protection coverage show major disparities among countries and within regions. For example, in Latin America alone, social protection coverage varies between 10 and 80 per cent. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that only one fourth of the labour force in many of the developing countries are covered by formal social protection systems, leaving three quarters of the labour force

outside them. Typically, the small proportion of the labour force that is covered is mostly found in the modern and formal sector. The vast majority of workers without the coverage of a social protection system belong to the informal sector, which is growing in many countries.

Partnerships

There was agreement that Governments play a fundamental role in the coverage of social contingencies faced by the people living in poverty, who are generally neither covered by for-profit private action nor by not-for-profit institutions. Governments benefit from economies of scale that, in principle, enable the provision of coverage at a lower cost to people living in poverty. At the same time, however, the for-profit private sector outperforms the public sector in the range and scope of insurance instruments it provides. These supplement public action and enable an appropriate mix of programmes, both market and non-market oriented. It was acknowledged that both sectors lack adequate communication and it was emphasized that coordination channels should be introduced. Another major supplement of public action is not-for-profit institutional schemes such as those provided by non-governmental organizations, including community based organizations and other civil society bodies. Building partnerships among all these actors is an important prerequisite for advancing a sustainable and coherent social protection regime.

Impact of globalization

The impact of globalization on social protection is complex and interpretations about what the main causes of inefficient or ineffective social protection systems vary. One view is that globalization is the main cause of increased inequality. The Asian crisis led to deterioration in education and health care in numerous countries. Similarly, the reduction of government revenues due to trade liberalization and service of the external debt has shrunk the pool of resources available for social policies. Another view is that, notwithstanding the negative implications of globalization, domestic factors remain a far larger determinant of the inability of countries to improve the performance of their social protection systems. It is argued that the strengthening of institutions and the introduction of appropriate regulations at the country level could help shield the domestic economy from external shocks. According to this view, countries should institute economic and social policies that seek to reduce their exposure to the latter. Admittedly, it is often the case that the external dependency of the developing countries will require support from the international community, both in terms of external debt relief and technical cooperation.

Trends in policy-making and experiences from reforms in social protection systems

In the last decade, we have witnessed the adoption of policy-making that has a strong neo-liberal bent, which has deprived large groups of social protection coverage. In fact, marginalization and the number of excluded persons have actually increased. It is essential that social protection systems be comprehensively assessed in order to guarantee coverage to populations. Some countries have structurally reformed their systems to reduce fiscal costs and expand coverage. For the most part, they have introduced private market-oriented instruments, such as the individual capitalization accounts and private health-care insurance. While in some countries, as a result of mixed strategies, the quality of programmes has improved, in others they led to rising administrative costs, discouraged the expansion of coverage and provided incentives for non-compliance and evasion.

National dialogue is important in the design and reform of social protection. Comprehensive social protection reforms can make an important contribution to making societies more inclusive and reducing the extent of marginalization.

In Europe, some of the challenges to social protection are being met at the regional level. A common methodology for assessing the extent of marginalization and other indicators are being developed in the context of the European Union. A precondition for the development of common indicators has been political and socio-economic cohesiveness of this particular region. In other

regions of the world, there are substantial differences in the circumstances facing countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in meeting the challenges of social protection. Despite the varying circumstances facing different regions, there are important lessons to be learned and all countries would benefit from sharing their experiences and best practices.

There is a substantial need for improvement of public understanding of how social protection systems work. There is need for public information and social dialogue. Lack of information has led to declining confidence and a crisis of credibility of social protection systems in many countries. In many countries, social security constitutes one of the largest shares of public budgets. There are examples of Governments that have "borrowed" from national social protection funds for use on other purposes. Enhanced public oversight combined with institutional autonomy contributes to the responsible use of funds.

Active policy paradigm

Social protection is the active pursuit of strategies to increase the well-being of the population, enhance social development and ensure that individuals can develop to their fullest potential. It is a socio-political process that is profoundly ideologized and that implies negotiation and the bringing together of the interests of different groups for the common good. Social protection is envisioned as an organized armoury of instruments that go beyond social security. It should be a very active policy because of the rapid change in both post-industrial/developed societies and in the developing world. In the developed world, high unemployment and high retirement rates imply the need for new programmes in education and training and long-term health care. In the developing world, the increased informalization of the labour force and widespread poverty require implementing new initiatives to reduce vulnerability.

Very clearly, major budget decisions will have to be made to fund these new challenges. In part, reallocation of budget lines, both public and private, and the establishment of very specific quantitative goals will allow a focused attention to social protection. More efficient use of existing budgetary resources is indispensable. Not only expanding revenues on the agenda, but also attaining increased efficiency in social spending is a priority.

It is not possible to define fixed minimum levels of expenditure in the social sectors. Instead one should focus on the correlation of the level of social spending as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) and levels of poverty. Therefore, commitment to poverty eradication is an implicit guarantee that there are sufficient resources available. In this regard, mechanisms for monitoring outcomes are needed. Very few countries have the capacity to measure the impact of given activities in the social sphere. It is very important, however, that countries develop the capacity to monitor and evaluate the results of social investment. This process will allow for continuous re-evaluation and review of investment flows and programmes.

Gender-sensitive and child-sensitive approaches

Gender mainstreaming is a crucial aspect of the social protection agenda. At the same time, since the fate of children is so closely linked to that of women, social protection should also be child-sensitive. This is a vexing problem because of competing claims on resources, which means that women and children are often at the end of the line in terms of budgetary allocation. This is of particular concern in the context of mandatory systems. Women remain very much discriminated against and form part of the marginalized group. The design of social security systems does not necessarily address their specific needs and the challenges they face. Poverty is more prevalent among female single-headed households with small children. In order to go to work, women need a whole array of services and support, which, for the most part, is currently non-existent.

Quantitative goals and capacity-building

Evidence shows that increases in resources available for social policies reduce the extent of

poverty. A firm commitment on the part of Governments and societies to allocate a larger share of total production to this end is required. Formulating clearly defined quantitative goals allows for monitoring, supervising and assessing progress as well as benchmarking for further developments. In order to be able to define and monitor progress, countries need to strengthen their statistical capabilities and support services. Attention should be paid to the professional and technical development of social protection specialists (managers, directors, chief executive officers, etc.) in individual countries. This is particularly relevant in the developing world, where lack of capacity and technical skills makes the implementation of the present recommendation extremely difficult.

Social protection as investment in human capital

Social protection is a necessary component of social development. It enables the attainment of human rights in the economic and social fields rather than its mere proclamation. It is a way to make the economy and society work better and to maintain social cohesion and peace. Furthermore, social protection expenditure should be considered as an investment in the future of the society rather than a mere expense. This expenditure permits society to sustain and enhance its human capital. By definition, it is not residual but forms part of the structure of economic and social policy-making.

Extending coverage to unprotected workers

There is unambiguous evidence that a very large group of workers remains marginalized and excluded from social protection. Some work in rural areas, remote locations that are resource-poor or in marginal urban neighbourhoods. There is no single answer to the question on how to extend protection to these workers. Civil society and community-based organizations are often the only ones that reach out to this important group. However, more organized state-run schemes should be put in place to standardize benefits and incorporate them into national protection systems.

Sub-theme: the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development

25. The Commission considered item 3 (a) (ii) of its agenda at its 8th and 11th meetings, on 20 and 23 February.

26. At the 8th meeting, on 20 February, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made an introductory statement.

27. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and also on behalf of the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia; the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey), Ecuador, Jamaica (on behalf of the members of the Caribbean Community), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Sudan, Haiti, the Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Croatia, Bangladesh and Benin as well as by the observers for the Philippines, Zambia, Iraq, Qatar, Cuba and Cameroon.

28. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Federation of Cuban Women, the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations and the International Federation of Associations of the Elderly, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

Action taken by the Commission

Volunteering and social development

29. At the 10th meeting, on 22 February, the representative of Japan, on behalf of Andorra,* Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil,* Chile,* Cameroon,* Croatia, Cyprus,* Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland,* Israel,* Japan, Malta,* Mexico, Netherlands,* Panama,* Republic of Korea, Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,* and United States of America

* Non-member participating in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1).

introduced a draft resolution entitled "Volunteering and social development" (E/CN.5/2001/L.4). Subsequently, Austria, Belgium,* Bulgaria, Canada,* Costa Rica,* Denmark, Ecuador, Finland,* Greece,* Italy,* Jamaica, Luxembourg,* Madagascar,* Norway,* Peru, Portugal,* Romania,* Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia* and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

30. At the 11th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. E, resolution 39/2).

Panel on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development

31. At its 5th meeting, on 15 February, the Commission held an expert panel discussion on the sub-theme "The role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development".

32. The Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers Programme made an introductory statement.

33. The Chairman of the Commission, Mrs. Faith Innerarity (Jamaica), acted as moderator. Dr. Justin Davis Smith (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Mr. Miguel Darcy Oliveira (Brazil), Mr. Dasho Meghraj Gurung (Bhutan), Ms. Joan Denise Daries (South Africa) and Dr. Michael Bürsch (Germany) made presentations.

34. Following their presentations, the panellists participated in an exchange of views with the Commission.

Action taken by the Commission

Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development

35. At the 12th meeting, on 23 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to include in its report the Chairman's summary of the expert panel on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development (see chap. I, sect. E, decision 39/103).

36. The Chairman's summary of the expert panel discussion on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development is set out below:

I. Forms and functions of volunteerism

A. Organizational settings

1. It is possible to identify at least four different types of organizational settings for volunteering: mutual aid or self-help; philanthropy or service to others; participation; and advocacy or campaigning. Each of these settings can be found in all parts of the world, though the form each takes and the balance or mix among them differ markedly according to economic, social, political and cultural situations. These organizational settings are not mutually exclusive. Volunteers who engage in mutual aid may also be involved in participatory movements and may benefit others apart from members of their own group. Similarly, volunteers involved with philanthropic or service delivery agencies may be involved in advocacy and campaigning.

B. Characteristics of voluntary activity

2. Volunteerism is dynamic. Its definition varies over time and among and within cultures, and may reflect a sense of enlightened self-interest in the volunteer. Despite its many guises, there are three core elements that can be attributed to voluntary activity in its many forms. First, it is not undertaken for financial gain. Second, it is carried out freely and without compulsion. Third, it benefits both the volunteer and the person or party whom the action is meant to aid. By emphasizing exchange and reciprocity, this last point challenges the traditional stereotype of volunteering as charity.

3. Though local definitions of volunteerism continue to evolve in response to the priorities of the community, many voluntary activities are rooted in ancient customs of caring and sharing. For example, Bhutanese traditions for managing common natural resources such as firewood collection, fire control and prevention and wildlife protection continue to influence that country's culture of environmental volunteerism. Conservation ethics are shaped by the Buddhist principle of respect for life in all of its forms.

C. The blurred edges of volunteerism

4. Despite its common characteristics, definitions of volunteerism are still ambiguous. Issues arise with regard to "compulsory volunteering", such as that advocated by educators and courts in some countries. This concept may appear to be contradictory. A similar problem may apply to the matter of unpaid domestic work.

5. Many organizations concerned with volunteering are faced with another paradox: the professionalization of volunteerism. As voluntary activities become increasingly specialized, so do the skills required of the volunteers who undertake them. Thus, opportunities for volunteers without specific training continue to shrink in some areas as the degree of professionalism required continues to rise.

II. Building societies: the impact of volunteerism

A. Social capital: networks of solidarity, webs of interaction

6. Volunteerism is both a source and a reflection of social capital, it is part of the informal web of solidarity that binds societies together and that provides many communities with the most basic of social safety nets. Volunteering is a key form of social capital, nurturing a community's social networks and its reciprocal norms. "Generalized reciprocity" reflects a belief that although volunteers may not be immediately recompensed for their voluntary efforts, they can realistically expect that their efforts will be recognized in the future. By nurturing trust and establishing a pattern of generalized reciprocity, volunteerism binds societies together. This can provide protection from some of the more disruptive effects of globalization by reinforcing cultural identity and allowing both the costs and benefits of socio-economic change to be shared more equitably.

B. International actors and national volunteerism

7. International actors can affect the shape of national volunteerism. Volunteer sending agencies have had a large impact on the national characteristic of voluntary action in many developing countries. Many countries in sub-Saharan Africa, for example, identify service volunteering with the highly visible programmes of volunteer sending agencies that have met critical human resource needs in areas such as health care and education and helped build national capacity through training and other means. This support has helped turn attention to the development of domestic service volunteerism through the establishment of volunteer centres and the formation of volunteers service schemes.

8. Social capital generated by voluntary action is vital to the development efforts of people living in poverty. World Bank research in Bolivia, Burkina Faso and Indonesia indicates a positive correlation between participation in local organizations and levels of poverty. The empowering effects of social mobilization are particularly important in this equation, creating a virtuous cycle of participation, advocacy and development. Thus, international development agents may factor the lessons of local volunteerism into their support to programmes of national governments.

III. Creating spaces: Government action on volunteering

A. Measuring and enabling volunteerism

9. Governments can work with and enhance local networks by facilitating links with intermediary organizations, broader markets and public institutions. Governments can develop integrated national development strategies by building enabling fiscal and legislative frameworks, raising public awareness of the contribution of voluntary action to general welfare and promoting voluntary action among excluded groups and in the private sector.

10. Governments can support research into the traditions of volunteering rooted in the culture of their societies, as well as into the contributions they make to the economy. A national survey of volunteering in the United Kingdom, for example, indicated that volunteerism adds approximately 40 million pounds to the gross domestic product

(GDP) each year. Such surveys facilitate the task of policy makers in integrating volunteer contributions into their planning. A United Nations Volunteers tool kit describing the procedures to be followed to measure volunteering was made available online on the day of the panel. Research should also address the social benefits of volunteering, such as social cohesion and inclusion. The results of these studies could be widely disseminated, for example, in schools, through the media, at places of worship and at periodic celebrations such as national days and International Volunteers Day. This can forge a common sense of purpose, facilitating and reinforcing interaction and cooperation among Governments, communities and other partners in development.

11. Opportunities for volunteering can be enhanced through legal, fiscal and regulatory measures that remove barriers to voluntary action. An environment supportive of local networks contributes to the creation of active rather than dependent citizens. Key issues include the legal status and registration requirements of local voluntary organizations, funding mechanisms and tenure rights over local resources. Governments may also wish to review regulations regarding qualifications for peoples wishing to work as volunteers in such areas as provision of health care and education.

12. Limited transportation and communication infrastructure can restrict people's ability to volunteer. This is especially true of geographically-dispersed populations and people living in poverty. A lack of meeting places, such as public parks, places of worship and community halls, inhibits people's ability to organize voluntary activities. Public investments in infrastructure can encourage voluntary activity.

13. Promoting volunteerism among older persons remains of central importance. Volunteering promotes a positive self-image and benefits both the volunteer and society. Older volunteers epitomize the ideal of active ageing by contributing to society and their own well-being through their voluntary activities. Similarly, people with disabilities can contribute their abilities and experiences through increased opportunities for and access to volunteering.

14. Governments can also play a key role in devising innovative ways to draw youth into civic life. Many young people may feel disaffected from or face hindrances to integration into society, especially those living in poverty, and this may weaken the fabric of some societies. Experience shows that when youth are offered creative and meaningful opportunities to contribute to the improvement of their communities they react very positively. Moreover, the impact is likely to have lasting results, given that volunteering in youth is a strong predicator of volunteering later in life.

B. Establishing a dialogue

15. An important strategy in the promotion of voluntary action involves the decentralization of resources and authority in order to bring service agencies closer to communities, enhance the latter's control over public services and increase accountability in the public sector. This, inter alia, opens space for parental involvement in schools, facilitates community involvement in local environmental programmes and promotes income-generating opportunities. Development initiatives at the local level should systematically involve users who are willing to invest their own time — an investment that would be recognized and rewarded.

16. Educational reforms based on effective public-private partnerships in Brazil have highlighted the benefits of involving volunteers in decentralization schemes. Evaluations indicate that when schools are opened to parental and community participation, performance markedly improves. There are gains in day-to-day management efficiency; dialogue between teachers and parents becomes the rule rather than the exception; there is greater community support to at-risk students; and waste and patronage are curtailed.

17. Similar results have been documented in the field of basic health care provision. The involvement of volunteers in public-private partnerships has led to improvements in health services for people with disabilities, preventative outreach, blood donation levels and in the physical condition of hospitals. Public attitudes towards government health workers are also

improved when the local population's active support is linked to health initiatives. People's involvement in their personal and collective well-being is an important contribution to the success of primary health care programmes.

18. In South Africa, the shift toward decentralized, participatory governance has involved dialogue with volunteers. The establishment of local transformation committees has given citizens a direct say in the provision of welfare services. Comprised of community-based organizations, faith-based and women's groups and the organized welfare and development sectors, local transformation committees identify and prioritize community needs, provide input to policy designs, plan and coordinate education and awareness programmes and support government projects at the local level. The local transformation committees not only help the Government in its efforts to revitalize the welfare system, but lend increased effectiveness to these efforts by showing that the population has a hand in their design.

C. Balancing rights and responsibilities

19. Government support for volunteering is cost-effective, but it is not cost free. In welcoming and expanding its network of partners, a government does not curtail its traditional roles and responsibilities. The promotion of citizen participation represents a win/win strategy, not a confrontation or a second best option. Public-private partnerships are desirable insofar as they increase the efficiency and outreach of government programmes and strengthen people's and community's trust in themselves and their relations with their governments.

20. Measures have been taken in Germany and the United Kingdom to clarify the balance of rights and responsibilities between the Government and the volunteer. For example, in the United Kingdom, a compact has been signed with all stakeholders in voluntary action that sets out the rights and responsibilities of all parties, facilitating volunteerism while allowing it to maintain its autonomy.

Dialogue with non-governmental organizations segment

37. At the 5th meeting, on 15 February, the Commission held a dialogue with non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. Presentations were made by the following non-governmental organizations: American Association of Retired Persons; Pax Christi International; International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres; International Federation on Ageing; International Longevity Centre; and United Methodist Church-General Board of Global Ministries.

Review of relevant United Nations plans and programme of action pertaining to the situation of social groups

38. The Commission considered sub-item 3 (b) of its agenda (Review of relevant United Nations plans and programme of action pertaining to the situation of social groups) at its 8th, 11th and 12th meetings, on 20 and 23 February 2001. The Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family (E/CN.5/2001/4);

(b) Interim report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (E/CN.5/2001/7).

39. At the 8th meeting, on 20 February, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement.

40. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and also on behalf of the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia and the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey), Ecuador, Jamaica (on behalf of the members of the Caribbean Community), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Sudan, Haiti, the Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Croatia,

Bangladesh and Benin, as well as by the observers for the Philippines, Zambia, Iraq, Qatar, Cuba and Cameroon.

41. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Federation of Cuban Woman, the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations and the International Federation of Associations of the Elderly, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

Action taken by the Commission

Preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

42. At the 11th meeting, on 23 February, the representative of Benin on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda,* Benin, Cameroon,* Chile,* Dominican Republic, Guyana,* Haiti, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan,* Madagascar,* Saint Lucia* and Trinidad and Tobago,* introduced a draft resolution (E/CN.5/2001/L.6) entitled "Preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family". Subsequently, Bangladesh, Belarus and the Philippines joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

43. At the same meeting, the representative of Benin orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In the third preambular paragraph, the word "*Considering*" was replaced by the word "*Recognizing*";

(b) The order of operative paragraphs 4 and 5 was reversed.

44. At the 12th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution).

Chapter III
Multi-year programme of work of the Commission for 2002-2006

45. The Commission for Social Development considered item 4 of its agenda (Multi-year programme of work of the Commission for 2002-2006) at its 7th and 12th meetings, on 16 and 23 February 2001.

46. At the 7th meeting, on 16 February, the Director of Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made some introductory remarks.

47. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Sweden (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and also on behalf of the Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia and the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey).

48. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the World Bank and ILO.

Action taken by the Commission

Proposals for a multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development for 2002-2006

49. At the 12th meeting, on 23 February, the Commission had before it a draft resolution entitled "Proposals for a multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development for 2002-2006" submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Muhammed Enayet Mowla (Bangladesh), on the basis of informal consultations.

50. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the proposals of the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. B, draft resolution).

Chapter IV
Programme questions and other matters

51. The Commission considered item 5 of its agenda (Programme questions and other matters: (a) Programme performance and implementation; (b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003; (c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development) at its 9th and 12th meetings, on 21 and

* Non-member participating in accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council (E/5975/Rev.1).

23 February 2001. The Commission had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development on the work of the Institute during 1999 and 2000 (E/CN.5/2001/3);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/2001/8 and Add.1);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the draft programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2002-2003 (E/CN.5/2001/L.2).

52. At the 9th meeting, on 21 February, the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made an introductory statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Division for Social Policy and Development.

53. At the same meeting, a presentation was made by the Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

54. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Iran (Islamic Republic of) (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Mexico and the United States of America, as well as by the observers for Cuba and India.

55. At the same meeting, the Commission agreed that the following views expressed should appear in the report under agenda item 5:

(a) Comments were made that the programme narrative should take into account General Assembly resolutions 55/231 on results-based budgeting and 55/234 on the medium-term plan. Particular reference was made to paragraphs 9 and 8, respectively, of these resolutions, in which the Secretary-General was requested to ensure that in presenting the programme budget, expected accomplishments and, where possible, indicators of achievement were included to measure achievements in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

(b) Comments were made that external factors had been drafted with too much emphasis on Member States. Views were expressed that external factors should be reformulated in more general terms and a specific recommendation was made to add "favourable international environment" as an external factor.

Action taken by the Commission

Renomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

56. At the 9th meeting, on 21 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to renominate, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council, the following candidates for membership in the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a further two-year period ending on 30 June 2003: Heba Handoussa (Egypt), Marcia Rivera (United States of America) and Gita Sen (India) (see chap. I, sect. D, decision 39/101).

Nomination of six new members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

57. At the same meeting, the Commission nominated the following six new members of the Board for a four-year term beginning on 1 July 2001 and expiring on 30 June 2005: Sir Tony Atkinson (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Jean-Paul Fitoussi (France), Anna Hedborg (Sweden), Amina Mama (Nigeria), Adele Smith Simmons (United States of America) and Jomo Kwane Sundaram (Malaysia) (see chap. I, sect. D, decision 39/101).

Documents considered in connection with programme questions and other matters

58. At the 12th meeting, on 23 February, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Commission decided to take note of the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/2001/3) and the note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (E/CN.5/2001/8 and Add.1) (see chap. I, sect. E., decision 39/105).

Chapter V
Provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Commission

59. At its 12th meeting, on 23 February 2001, the Commission considered item 6 of its agenda. The Commission had before it an informal paper by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the fortieth session, together with a list of requested documentation.

60. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to approve the provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Commission, together with the list of requested documentation (see chap. I, sect. C).

Chapter VI
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-ninth session

61. At the 12th meeting, on 23 February 2001, the Vice-Chairman, serving also as Rapporteur, introduced the draft report of the Commission on its thirty-ninth session (E/CN.5/2001/L.5), which she corrected orally.

62. The Commission then adopted the report and entrusted the Rapporteur with its completion.

Chapter VII
Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

63. The Commission for Social Development held its thirty-ninth session at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 13 to 23 February 2001. The Commission held 12 meetings (1st to 12th) and a number of informal meetings.

B. Attendance

64. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996, the Commission is composed of 46 States Members of the United Nations, elected on the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

65. The session was attended by 46 States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States and representatives of specialized agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in annex I to the present report.

C. Election of officers

66. At its 1st meeting, on 13 February, the Commission elected Faith Innerarity (Jamaica) as Chairman, by acclamation.

67. Also at the same meeting, the Commission elected Henrik Hahn (Denmark) as Vice-Chairman, by acclamation).

68. At its 6th meeting, on 15 February, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Vice-Chairmen

Nicole J. Elisha (Benin)
Muhammed Enayet Mowla (Bangladesh)

69. At its 8th meeting, on 20 February, the Commission elected Anzhela Korneliouk (Belarus) as Vice-Chairman, by acclamation.

70. At its 9th meeting, on 21 February, the Commission decided that Ms. Korneliouk would also act as Rapporteur.

D. Agenda

71. At its 1st meeting, on 13 February, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda for the session (E/CN.5/2001/1).

The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development:
   (a) Themes:
      (i) Priority theme: enhancing social protection and reducing

vulnerability in a globalizing world;

(ii) Sub-theme: the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development;

(b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.

4. Multi-year programme of work of the Commission for 2002-2006.

5. Programme questions and other matters:

(a) Programme performance and implementation;

(b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2002-2003;

(c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

6. Provisional agenda for the fortieth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-ninth session.

E. Organization of work

72. At its 1st meeting, on 13 February, the Commission approved its organization of work for the session (E/CN.5/2001/L.1).

F. Opening statements

73. At the 1st meeting, on 13 February, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs addressed the Commission.

G. Expert panel discussions

Expert panel discussion on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world

74. At the 1st meeting, on 13 February, the following members of the expert panel on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world addressed the Commission: Dalmer D. Hoskins, Secretary-General, International Social Security Association; Ernesto Murro, Board Member, National Social Security Bank of Uruguay; Viviene Taylor, Chairperson, Committee of Enquiry into a Comprehensive Social Security System and Special Adviser to the Minister for Social Development of South Africa; and Frank Vandenbroucke, Minister for Social Affairs and Pensions, Federal Government of Belgium. The Chairman of the Commission acted as moderator.

75. Members of the Commission held a general exchange of views with the panel members.

Expert panel discussion on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development

76. At the 5th meeting, on 15 February, the Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteers Programme made an introductory statement.

77. At the same meeting, the following members of the expert panel on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development addressed the Commission: Justin Davis Smith, Founding Director, Institute for Volunteering Research (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); Miguel Darcy Oliveira, Coordinator of the Institute for Cultural Action (IDAC) and Coordinator of the national programme to strengthen voluntarism (Brazil); Dasho Meghraj Gurung, Managing Director, Bhutan Post, and Vice-Chairperson, International Year of Volunteers Committee of Bhutan; Joan Denise Daries, Director, Volunteer Centre of Cape Town, and Chairperson, International Year of Volunteers Committee of South Africa and South African National Aid Council Task Force; and Michael Bürsch, member, German Federal Parliament, and Chairman, Parliamentary Commission on the Future and Social Civic Participation. The Chairman of the Commission acted as moderator.

78. Members of the Commission held a general exchange of views with the panel members.

H. Non-governmental organizations dialogue segment

79. At its 5th meeting, on 15 February, the Commission held a dialogue with non-governmental organizations. The following made presentations:

American Association of Retired Persons; Pax Christi International; International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres; International Federation on Ageing; International Longevity Center; and United Methodist Church-General Board of Global Ministries. The representative of Germany, the representative of the International Federation on Ageing and a member of the expert panel on the role of volurteerism in the promotion of social development participated in the dialogue.

I. Documentation

80. The documents before the Commission at its thirty-ninth session are listed in annex II to the present report.

Annex I

Attendance

Members

Algeria:	Abdallah Baali, Dalila Samah, Mohamed Mellah
Argentina:	Arnoldo Listre, Alejandra Ayuso, Domingo Cullen
Austria:	Gerard Pfanzelter, Susanne Keppler-Schlesinger, Eveline Hönigsperger, Verena Wimmer-Kodat, Anna-Rosa Weiss
Bangladesh:	Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, Muhammed Enayet Mowla
Belarus:	Olga Darge, Sergei Ling, Andrei Taranda, Anzhela Korneliouk
Benin:	Arouna Rabiatou, Nicole J. Elisha
Bulgaria:	Vladimir Sotirov, Katya Todorova, Zlatko Dimitroff
China:	Shen Guofang, Yu Wenzhe, Mei Yuncai, Zhang Dan, Sun Zhonghua, Xiao Caiwei
Croatia:	Davorko Vidović, Nino Žganec, Jasminka Dinić, Tania Valerie Raguž
Czech Republic:	Miroslav Fuchs, Dagmar Ratajová, Naděžda Holiková
Democratic People's Republic of Korea:	Kim Chang Guk, Mun Jong Chol
Denmark:	Henrik Hahn
Dominican Republic:	Julia Tavares de Alvarez, Mariela Sánchez
Ecuador:	Mario Alemán, Mónica Martínez, Juan Larrea Miño
El Salvador:	José Roberto Andino Salazar, Carlos Enrique García González
France:	Jean-David Levitte, Didier Le Bret, Christophe Philibert François Poinsot, Olivier Villey, Marie Christine Coent, William Wilkinson
Gabon:	Eugène Revangue, Yves Owanleley-Adiahenot, Jeanine Taty-Koumba, Baudelaire Ndong-Ella
Germany:	Dieter Kastrup, Detlef Boldt, Wolfgang Linckelmann, Michael Bürsch, Bettina Cadenbach, Christoph Linzbach, Joachim Holzenberger, Cornelia Aust, Elisabeth Heidbrink, Birgit Zeitz, Martin Schenkel, Bernhard Von Rosenbladt, Stefan Pohlmann, Dirk Jarré, Jutta Braun von Der Brelie, Ruth Brand, Marianne Schmidle
Ghana:	Nana Effah-Apenteng, Beatrice R. Brobbey

Guatemala:	Gert Rosenthal, Luis F. Carranza, Karla Samayoa
Guinea:	François L. Fall, Paul Goa Zoumanigui
Haiti:	Pierre Lelong, Nicole Romulus
Indonesia:	Makmur Widodo, Dr. Samidjo, Bali Moniaga, Ade Padmo Sarwono, Dewi Savitri Wahab, Listyowati
Iran (Islamic Republic of):	
Italy:	Sergio Vento, Pier Benedetto Francese, Marina Romualdi Vaccari, Brunella Borzi, Maria Angela Zappia, Donata Robiolo Bose
Jamaica:	Patricia Durrant, Faith Innerarity, Craig Lawrence
Japan:	Atsuko Nishimura, Rumi Yabuki, Masaki Yokoyama
Kazakhstan:	Madina Jarbussynova, Gulnara Tokhseitova, Talgat Unaibayev
Kenya:	Bob Francis Jalang'o, Sarah J. Rotich-Matthews, Dishon M. Gatuku
Mexico:	
Morocco:	Ahmed Snoussi, El Hassane Zahid, Aicha Afifi, Hichame Dahane, Mohamed Laghman
Nigeria:	Arthur C. I. Mbanefo, Teniola Olusegun Apata, Mustapha Betara Aliyu, Adamu Aboki Musa, G. M. Quist
Peru:	Jorge Valdez, Manuel Picasso, Alfredo Chuquihuara, Carmen-Rosa Arias, Luz Marina Vera
Republic of Korea:	Sun Joun-yung, Lee Kyeong-ho, Lim Jae-Jong, Kim Hyo-eun, Lee Seung-buhm, Oh Jin-hee, Kim Yun-sik
Russian Federation:	S. Karev, T. Ramishvili, V. Tarabrin, A. Chervontsev M. Korunova, A. Rogov, D. Knyazhinskiy, K. Barskiy
South Africa:	Zola Skweyiya, Vivienne Taylor, Mbulelo Musi, Taresa Small, Fezile Makiwane, Nobayeni Dladla, Luvuyo Ndimeni
Spain:	Concepción Dáncausa, Inocencio F. Arias, Alberto Galeron de Miguel, Aurelio Fernandez, Javier Aparicio, Mónica Delaguardia, José Santiago Fernandez Del Valle, Maria Noguerol, José Antonio Ibañez
Sudan:	Mubarak Rahmtalla, Omer Bashir Manis, Ilham Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed, Tarig Ali Bakhit, Anas El Tayeb Elgailani Mustafa, Mohamed Zaki Khalifa, Siddig Mohamed Abdalla, Babiker Abdelrahim
Swaziland:	

Sweden:	Eva Persson Göransson, Hans Lundborg, Aurore Lundkvist, Carl Ålvåg, Carl Leczinsky, Lars Blomgren, Björn Jonzon, Lars Pettersson, Annika Mansnérus, Cecilia Halle, Kerstin Jansson, Maisoun Jabali, Niklas Jacobsson, Andreas Hilmersson, Katrin Mäansson
Switzerland:	Pierre Helg, Julius Anderegg, Cyril Malherbe, Florence Gaillat Engeli
Thailand:	Boonyong Vechamanesri, Kulkumut Singhara Na Ayudhaya, Phenchome Incharoensak, Kesanee Palanuwongse, Arjaree Sritanaban, Rarunthip Sirorat
Turkey:	Cumhur Menderes Boz, Hakan Tekin
United Republic of Tanzania:	Daudi N. Mwakawago, Silvery B. Burberwa, John L. Zayumba, N'nyapule R. C. Madai, Clifford K. Tandari
United States of America:	Betty E. King, John Davison, Mirta Alvarez, David Hohman, Avraham Rabby, Claudia Serwer, Ruth Wagoner, Elizabeth Mullen
Viet Nam:	Nguyen Thanh Chan, Le Hoai Trung, Nguyen Thanh Ha

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Panama, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Non-member States represented by observers

Holy See

Entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and maintaining permanent observer missions at Headquarters

Palestine

Specialized agencies

International Labour Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization, World Bank, World Intellectual Property Organization

United Nations bodies

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Joint and Co-sponsored United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) (UNAIDS), United Nations Development Programme

Intergovernmental organizations represented by observers

Caribbean Community, European Community, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Organization of African Unity, Organization of the Islamic Conference

Non-governmental organizations

General consultative status

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), Caritas Internationalis, Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches, Congregation of St. Joseph, HelpAge International, International Alliance of Women, International Association of Lions Clubs, International Council of Women, International Council on Social Welfare, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA), International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres, International Federation on Ageing, International Movement ATD Fourth World, International Social Security Association, International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Muslim World League, Society for International Development, Soroptimist International, World Confederation of Labour, World Family Organization, World Federation of Democratic Youth, World Federation of United Nations Associations, World Veterans Federation, Zonta International

Special consultative status

Afghan Development Association, Association tunisienne des mères, Baha'i International Community, Canadian Council of Churches, Centro di Ricerca e Documentazione Febbraio 74 (CERFE), Charitable Society for Social Welfare, Child Welfare League of America, China Disabled Person's Federation, Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice, Congregation of Our Lady of the Good Shepherd, Disabled Peoples' International, Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants, Federation of Cuban Women, Fes-Saïs Association, Foundation for Rights of the Family, Friends World Committee for Consultation, General Confederation of Trade Unions, Global Education Associates, Gran Fraternidad Universal-Universal Great Brotherhood, Institute of Global Education, International

Association of Schools of Social Work, International Association for Volunteer Effort, International Club for Peace Research, International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity, International Council of Jewish Women, International Council on Alcohol and Addictions, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Social Workers, International Federation of University Women, International Humanist and Ethical Union, International Islamic Relief Organization, International Justice and Human Rights Office, International Longevity Center, International Research Foundation for Development, International Social Science Council, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies, International Union of Architects, International Union of Students, International Young Catholic Students, Islamic Women's Institute of Iran, JMJ Children's Fund of Canada Inc., Ladies Charitable Society, Lutheran World Federation, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, National Association of Cuban Economists, National Union of Ghana Students, Netherlands Organization for International Development Corporation (NOVIB), Pax Christi International, Paz y Cooperación, Public Services International, Radin Institute for Family Health Education Programme, Research Centre for Feminist Action (Centro de Investigation Para la Acción Femenina), School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Union nationale de la femme tunisienne, Union of International Associations, United Methodist Church-General Board of Global Ministries, Vrouwen Alliantie, World Federalist Movement, World Federation for Mental Health, World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, World Information Transfer, World Psychiatric Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA)

Roster

Armenian International Women's Association, Armenian Relief Society, Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs, Center for Development of International Law, Congress of Racial Equality, Council on International and Public Affairs, European Federation of the Elderly, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Green Earth Organization, Instituto Brasileiro de Analises Sociais e Economicas, Instituto del Tercer Munco, International Association of Charities, International Association of Educators for World Peace, International Federation for Parent Education, International Immigrants Foundation, International Union for Health Education, Loretto Community, Unda-International Catholic Association for Radio and Television

Other non-governmental organizations accredited to the World Summit for Social Development and to the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Accessing Support Services and Entrepreneurial Technology, Inc., All Africa Students Union, Center for the Alleviation of Poverty, Community Development Concern, Confederation française démocratique du travail, Global Action on Ageing, Morocco League for Child Protection, Movimiento Manuela Ramos, National Council on Family Relations, RainForest Regeneration Institute, Society for Integrated Urban and Rural Development, Triglav Circle, Union de l'action féminine, World Hunger Year, Youth Charitable Organization

Annex II

List of documents before the Commission at its thirty-ninth session

Document number	*Agenda item*	*Title or description*
E/CN.5/2001/1	2	Provisional agenda
E/CN.5/2001/2	3 (a) (i)	Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing social protection and reducing vulnerability in a globalizing world
E/CN.5/2001/3	5 (c)	Note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
E/CN.5/2001/4	3 (b)	Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family
E/CN.5/2001/5	3 (a) (ii)	Note by the Secretariat on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of of social development
E/CN.5/2001/6	3 (a) (ii)	Note by the Secretary-General on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development
E/CN.5/2001/7	3 (b)	Interim report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons
E/CN.5/2001/8 and Add.1	5 (c)	Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
E/CN.5/2001/L.1	2	Note by the Secretariat on the organization of work of the session
E/CN.5/2001/L.2	5 (b)	Note by the Secretariat on the draft programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2002-2003
E/CN.5/2001/L.3	4	Note by the Secretariat on the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for 2002-2006
E/CN.5/2001/L.4	3 (a) (ii)	Volunteering and social development: draft resolution

E/CN.5/2001/L.5	7	Draft report of the Commission on its thirty-ninth session
E/CN.5/2001/L.6	3 (b)	Preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family: draft resolution
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/1	3	Statement submitted by Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), International Council on Social Welfare, and International Movement ATD Fourth World, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; Child Welfare League of America, International Association of Schools of Social Work, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of Social Workers and Pax Christi International, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; Armenian Relief Society, a non-governmental organization on the Roster of the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/2	3 (a) (i)	Statement submitted by Pax Christi International, non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/3	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by the International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/4	3 (a) (i)	Statement submitted by Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America, HelpAge International, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Soroptimist International and Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in general consultative

		status with the Economic and Social Council; Associated Country Women of the World, Baha'i International Community, Foundation for the Rights of the Family, International Catholic Child Bureau, International Confederation of Christian Family Movements, International Council of Jewish Women, International Council of Psychologists, International Council on Alcohol and Addictions, International Federation for Family Development, International Federation for Home Economics, international Federation of University Women, International Kolping society, Italian Centre of Solidarity, New Humanity, Pax Romana (International Catholic Movement for International and Cultural Affairs) (International Movement of Catholic Students), Salvation Army, Service and Research Foundation of Asia on Family and Culture, SOS Kinderdorf International, World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women and World Movement of Mothers, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Council; and European Union of Women, International Association of Charities, and International Inner Wheel, non-governmental organizations on the Roster of the Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/5	3 and 4	Statement submitted by the International Movement ATD Fourth World, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/6	3 (a) (ii)	Statement submitted by the American Association of Retired Persons, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/7	3 (b)	Statement submitted by the International Federation on Ageing and Soroptimist International, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; International Council of Jewish Women and International Humanist and Ethical Union, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Council; and Armenian International Women's Association and

		Loretto Community (Sisters of Loretto), non-governmental organizations on the Roster of the Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/8	3 (b)	Statement submitted by the Foundation for the Rights of the Family, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/9	3 (b)	Statement submitted by the International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA), a non-governmental organization in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council
E/CN.5/2001/NGO/10	3 (b)	Statement submitted by the American Association of Retired Persons, Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Organizations for Charitable and Social Actions), HelpAge International, International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Federation on Ageing, Rotary International, Soroptimist International, Zonta International, non-governmental organizations in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; Associated Country Women of the World, European Federation of Older Students at the Universities, Institute of Inter-Balkan Relations, International Council of Jewish Women, International Federation for Home Economics, International Federation of University Women, Women's International Zionist Organization, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Council; and Consumers International, European Federation for the Welfare of the Elderly, International Association of Charities, International Inner Wheel, International Roundtable for the Advancement of Counselling and World Peace Council, non-governmental organizations on the Roster of the Council

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